



# DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

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August 21, 1980

## FOUNDATION LOANS AID BUILDING PROGRAMS

NEW YORK -- Ten loans totalling \$192,000 to aid building projects in nine dioceses have been authorized by the board of directors of The Episcopal Church Foundation since February 1. The loans are helping to complete the construction projects of seven missions and three parishes, as well as assisting an urban Indian center to purchase a new building. They are repayable in ten annual, equal installments, or over a shorter period if possible, with a 4 percent interest charge on the unpaid balance.

St. Simon Peter's was organized as a mission five years ago in Pell City, Ala., located in fast-growing St. Clair County adjacent to the state's largest city, Birmingham. The congregation has increased and has decided to build its own church after worshipping for so long in the Seventh Day Adventist Church building. The proposed sanctuary will seat 150, and a loan of \$20,000 to the Diocese of Alabama will help construct the building.

St. Augustine's Center for American Indians in Chicago, founded by an Episcopal priest in 1961, conducts a program of long-term and crisis counseling and a drop-in center for chronic alcoholics. It provides food, clothing and emergency living expenses to native Americans. The Center's life revolves around its chapel and daily services. The Center is purchasing a three-story building for the expansion of its social services program for abused children. A \$25,000 loan to the Diocese of Chicago, to be repaid in two years, will help make this possible.

A \$20,000 loan to the Diocese of Colorado will aid the Church of the Good Shepherd in Englewood to construct the first half of a combined church and parish hall. The mission is four years old and currently meets at a neighborhood school, from which the congregation conducts an active ministry to the community and the diocese at large. One tenth of the mission's income is devoted to outside needs of the Church.

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The mission of St. Francis of Assisi was established in 1976 in northeast Colorado Springs, where the population has doubled in the past five years. The congregation now meets in a high school cafeteria, but the contract for its use expires soon. To remedy this situation, St. Francis' is planning to put up a multi-purpose building that will house worship and education space. The Diocese of Colorado has received a \$22,000 loan, which completes the financial package for the new building.

A \$10,000 loan to the new Diocese of El Camino Real will help the education program of St. Stephen's-in-the-Fields in San Jose, Calif. A former Foundation loan has helped this mission build a shell to house its church and offices. The present loan will be used to purchase a portable classroom for the adult education and Sunday School programs of St. Stephen's School, which will soon serve 90 children from pre-school age through the third grade.

The church building of St. John the Divine in Morgan Hill, California, seats 80 and was constructed in 1959, three years after the congregation was organized. The town is now changing from a farming community to a suburb of San Jose, and church growth is expected to parallel that of the town. A loan of \$15,000 to the Diocese of El Camino Real will be used, together with other local funds, to expand the church building so that its seating space is doubled and additional facilities are provided.

The present building of St. Matthew's Church in Bogalusa, La., was dedicated in 1922 and seats 72 people. Since the community has experienced considerable growth in the intervening years, the church is to be renovated and enlarged with help from a five-year \$15,000 loan to the Diocese of Louisiana, which will also make possible the expansion of the sacristy.

In the central west end of St. Louis, Trinity Parish draws its congregation from the neighborhood's rich and poor, old and young, black and white. More than 40 percent of its budget and more than one-half of the time of its paid staff and volunteers are devoted to neighborhood programs that are operated seven days a week. Since the space rented for classroom activities is to be demolished for urban renewal, a five-year loan of \$15,000 to the Diocese of Missouri will help the parish to erect a new building to house offices and counseling services, as well as classroom space.

As the first new mission in the diocese in 16 years, the Church of the Messiah in Long Valley, N.J., has been organized in the past 18 months and meets at the local high school. Sunday attendance is growing, and the Sunday School is popular with mission families. A \$25,000 loan to the Diocese of Newark will be used to purchase a stone residence and a barn, which will be made over into sanctuary and vicarage.





St. John's was established as a mission in Johnson City, Tenn., in 1890 and prospered almost immediately. It achieved parish status in 1905, when the first portion of the present church was built. As other major downtown churches moved away from the city center in succeeding years, St. John's stayed to carry out its urban ministry on the spot. A one-year, \$25,000 loan to the Diocese of Tennessee will help the parish to enlarge its classrooms, offices and worship areas, which have become too small to function effectively.

The Revolving Loan Fund is one program of The Episcopal Church Foundation, which also makes grants and awards fellowships for doctoral study. As a national, independent organization of lay men and women, the Foundation supports projects of significance to the Church that would otherwise be left undone.

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